



**Date: May 22, 2009
Devens Conference Center
0900 - 1600**

**May Day! May Day! May Day!
Firefighter Down!**

Now WHAT?

This will be a one-day conference that will include how to deal with serious line of duty injury to a firefighter(s) as well as firefighter line of duty death(s). It will focus on two tragedies, which took place locally here in Massachusetts. It will look at these from a CISM team perspective as well as from a fire officer point of view.

It will incorporate the dos, the don'ts and the lessons learned by those that have been there.

Can this happen in your department?

Chief Robert Hollingshead presents **"Fate is the Hunter" – A Different Perspective**. This program provides an inside perspective into the June 1999 "Clifton Avenue" fire in Hull,

Massachusetts that resulted in the traumatic and paralyzing injuries that ultimately led to the line of duty death of Firefighter John Clasby nine years later.

Included in the discussion will be analysis of the group dynamics within the Fire Department "family", other public safety organizations, local officials and the community; including a look at the lessons learned and a plan for the future.

Captain Don Jasmin will discuss the "Rose Street" Incident of January 28, 1995 that took place in Stoughton, which claimed the life of Firefighter Victor Melendy. He will start with an overview of the incident and lead into the process that their department went through to deal with a firefighter fatality and how to deal with the behind the scene issues that departments face.

He will discuss short-term issues that arise with family and spouses both of the department members as well as of those involved. He will also look at long-term issues that affected the department as a whole.

If it does...What do you do and who can help?

Chief Andrew Reardon discusses resources that are available locally and regionally.

Sandy Scerra, Coordinator of the MA State Peer Support Network, will discuss "Why we need CISM". She will review the basics of CISM and presents the statewide response that will include resources that are available.

Hayden Duggan, Founder and President of the On-site Academy, will discuss and familiarize conference attendees with a residential program at the On-Site Academy for managing reactions to Line of Duty Death, and to present an innovative peer team for survivors, called 'WINGS' (Widows in Need of Grief Support), to describe its services, and how to access them.

Rev. James Tilbe and Rev. Don Milligan, Massachusetts Corp of Fire Chaplains, will discuss the roll of Chaplains ranging from the scene of the tragedy, to notification, funerals, follow up with family and the department.

Group Discussions/ Wrap up